

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: <b>JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN AND ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY, ANNUAL REVIEW 2000.</b>
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE: 21st November 2000	
DATE OF HOUSING COMMITTEE: 29th November 2000	
DATE OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 28th November 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: Brian McAteer	
REF:	

**1 CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to issue the 2nd Annual Review of the North Lanarkshire Joint Community Care plan and Accommodation Strategy. The Review was issued in draft form for a period of consultation in September this year. Following this consultation exercise, the review has been amended and is now ready to be issued in final form. Committee is asked to agree to issue the review and meet the costs of publication.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The North Lanarkshire Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy (1998-2001) was published in June 1998. The review updates progress on the care group action plans in the first two years of the plan, and provides details on community care purchasing intentions for the period 2000-2003.
- 2.2 The draft review was prepared in August. Joint planning partners, through the North Lanarkshire Joint Steering Group, endorsed the draft review and agreed that it should be widely distributed to seek the views of service users, carers, staff and providers on the progress being made on the action plans.
- 2.3 In August 2000, Social Work, Education and Housing Committee agreed to issue the draft review for a period of consultation.

**3 DRAFT CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The draft review was the subject of a wide circulation by the joint planning partners. 2000 copies were issued throughout North Lanarkshire to:

- ◆ community based organisations

- ◆ providers of health and social care services
- ◆ elected members, MSPs and MPs
- ◆ staff.

- 3.2 A number of written comments have been received regarding the content and presentation of the review. A report on these responses is attached to this report in Appendix 1. The final version of the review has been amended in light of responses received. Where operational issues have been raised, these have been remitted to the appropriate Principal Officer for response.
- 3.3 A copy of the revised document has been placed in the Member's Library.

#### 4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 As with earlier publications of the Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy, agreement to share the costs of printing and distributing the review has been reached. It is proposed that the final document will be published in a similar format to the first review of the current plan. It is also proposed that 5000 copies be ordered and the approximate cost of printing/publishing will be £3000 to be shared equally by North Lanarkshire Council, Lanarkshire Health Board and Scottish Homes.

#### 5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Committee is asked to:
- (i) note the outcome of the consultation exercise;
  - (ii) agree to meet the costs of publication; and
  - (iii) subject to final editing, approve the publication of the final review document.

*K Somers*

*JD*  
**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**13 November 2000**

*For further information on this report please contact K Somers, Head of Social Work Development (TEL: 01698 332010)*

## **Review of Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy, 2000.**

### **Report on Consultation.**

Comments were received from the following:

Deafblind UK  
 Lanarkshire Community Care Forum  
 Lanarkshire Drug Action Team  
 Lanarkshire Health Board  
 North Lanarkshire Advisory Project  
 North Lanarkshire Councillors  
 North Lanarkshire Director of Administration  
 North Lanarkshire Economic Development Department  
 North Lanarkshire Social Work Staff  
 Orbiston Friendship Club  
 Scottish Ambulance Service  
 Scottish Care, Lanarkshire  
 Scottish Pensioners Association  
 Scottish Society for Autism.

The 2000 Review of the Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy 1998-2001 was issued for consultation in the first week in September. The closing date for submissions was 14th October, although submissions were accepted beyond this date.

Most respondents who commented on the style and layout of the document did so favourably. One group felt the document should have been issued in a range of alternative formats. A tape version was subsequently made available. Another group commented that some of the language used was jargonistic, and pointed to specific instances. These have been amended accordingly in the final version.

In terms of the content of the review, there were a variety of comments made. Where these took the form of questions or requests for further information, they have been answered directly. In the case of suggested amendments or amplifications, we have endeavoured to include these in the final version.

### **Extracts from written submissions.**

“In general, this was a very worthwhile document and the layout was quite comprehensible. However, the tick boxes on pages 14 to 28 were quite confusing...Most of the language used is clear. However, there were a few instances where jargon was used.”

“The Plan is easily readable and accessible.”

“We have been asked to comment on this draft document but feel we have to bring to your attention the fact that the document does not come in other forms....The Committee feels that this is an important issue, which constantly curtails their ability to make valid comments.”

“Very comprehensive report. Extremely well detailed and laid out.”

“We welcome your distinct reference to “people with a visual and hearing impairment” and that you intend to “explore the provision of guide/communicators” for this often ignored section of the community.”

“Encouraged by the positive response to developing training for carers and the monies set aside for this. However, is this money ongoing?”

“Users are experiencing difficulties in accessing the Community Alarm System and there is a time delay in providing the cover necessary.”

“Concerned that the Framework Document (Learning Disabilities) did not include the comments of users and carers following 2 conferences and a lot of work, and hope that the strategy document itself will take these comments into consideration.”

“More publicity needed to promote the “Connected 2” Directory as many users and carers are not aware of its existence.”

“Encouraged by aiming for shorter waiting times for assessments. However, when will this be implemented?”

“We would like to look at the opportunity to develop a co-ordinated approach on the planning and reporting of drug and alcohol issues.”

“Health visitors are not visiting the over 80s and 90s very regularly, as sometimes their families do not live near them.”

“Scottish Ambulance Service has a wide reaching infrastructure throughout Lanarkshire and Glasgow. The Service has experience, skills and knowledge which are pertinent to the health aspect of the multi agency approach.”

“Note that no programme of planned respite within nursing homes has been included, despite the recommendation from the Scottish Executive in the Strategy for Carers.”

“The ordinary range of services for persons with learning disabilities will not necessarily meet the needs of persons with autism.....the needs of persons with autism and the appropriate requirement with housing often goes unrecognised.....the specific needs of persons with autism often means they can not benefit from ordinary respite and outreach services.”